

Meeting of the Coventry Fire District, Anthony Fire Department Board of Directors

June 10, 2009 – Wednesday

Opened Meeting: 7:15 pm

Board Members in attendance: Gary Cote - Chairman, Shirley Matthews - Co-Chairman, TJ Matola and Edward Webster

Legal Council – Chris Pachino

Chief – Paul Labbadia

Clerk – Robin Leroux

1)

Board of Directors Update and Discussion –

Gary Cote opened the discussion by reading the Tax Collectors report - Collections to date \$1,160,003.80 tax, \$26,662.60 interest for total of \$1,186,666.40. We've collected 52% of 2009 budget to date. The 3rd quarter is not due until July 31, 2009. We have \$41,663.54 in Coventry Credit Union as of June 9, 2009.

Gary Cote proceeded with the meeting by reading into the public record, 6 letters and grievances hand delivered to his home, from the Coventry Firefighter's Union Local #3240 and signed by Robert G. Carlow, President. The board was instructed to listen and not make any comments or decisions on the letters and grievances since they were not submitted through the proper procedure for the Board to address them.

Gary Cote announced the public auction on Friday 6/12/09 at 10 am for the house and property next door. Shirley Matthews has worked very hard on this matter, negotiating with the auction company and

our legal council to change the contract in our favor and getting the fees of the auction reduced if the property does not sell. Also all expenses of the auction will be assumed by the buyer. We have spent \$472 in advertising fees. The reserve for the sale is set at \$25,000.00. The money received in this sale will be used for capital improvements.

Shirley Matthews addressed Chief Labbadia with questions regarding the \$30,000 in the budget allotted for capital improvements. The Chief stated that approximately \$27,000 has been spent of that budget and most of the repairs have been done and paid for. The separate Fire Safety account is active and deposits are being made into the account. The Chief believes the balance may be around \$6000+, but he is not handling it directly.

Ed Webster asked the Chief the status of the wire removal on route 3. They are all off line and will be taken down. The city of Providence and West Warwick would like to buy some of these supplies. We owe a private citizen on Mapledale a box that he personally bought and that was stolen.

Gary Cote asked the Chief the status on hiring the new fire fighter and requested that a member of the board be present at any and all interviews. There are 3 or 4 candidates at this point. They need to submit to both physical and psychological testing to be considered for the position.

We are over budget in 2 areas as of 5/31/09: station repairs and vehicle maintenance. We need to straighten out 2 line items on the budget when the treasurer comes back from vacation. The capital

improvements and building maintenance accounts need to be adjusted to reflect the correct costs. Gary Cote is requesting that copies of the budget put in place in the beginning of the year, be available at the next meeting with the budgeted and spent, year to date figures on it..

The Chief would like to change billing companies and insurance companies. The billing company has a better collection rate than the one we currently use and we do not have to sign a contract. They charge the same percentage fee for their services. There's no lapse time. They are more convenient with the hospital billing. The new insurance company would save us at least \$50,000. They have inspected the property and their only stipulation is that we can't use the 3rd floor after July 1, 2009. It should not be a hardship to move the offices to the 1st floor and will make the secretaries office handicap accessible.. We have 6 windows that still need to be done. The heat and a/c are in place, waiting for wiring to be done. All is paid for so far except the electrician. The sale of the house will help finish improvements and fix the roof. The money won't be available for couple months after the sale.

2) Public Comments and Discussion – None

3) Adjournment of Meeting –

Shirley Matthews made a motion for adjournment and it was seconded by TJ Matola. All members were in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm.

The meeting was taped. The tape is on file with the record of the meeting.

Respectfully submitted

Robin Leroux

Clerk, Board of Directors AFD